

JAB

4 April 1966

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Discussion with Mr. [ ] on 31 March

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1. On 31 March I discussed the following topics with Mr. [ ]

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1. Storage of Index to WALNUT at Records Center.

[ ] showed me two memoranda, one from Mr. Helms, the Deputy Director of the Agency and the other from the Assistant DDP, Mr. Karamessines, concerning the general security of the WALNUT project. In his memorandum Mr. Helms discussed relative security at Headquarters and at the Records Center. He referred to apparent attempts by "the enemy" to penetrate IBM. He also referred to the possibility of any penetration at the Records Center. Mr. Karamessines dwelt at length on the security measures at Headquarters to protect the WALNUT project. With respect to the Records Center, his memorandum outlined the storage of the Index over a period of several years and emphasized the fact that the Index is housed in unlocked safe cabinets at the Center. The memorandum points out that these safes should be locked and it was the responsibility of the Records Center personnel to see that this was done.

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These two memoranda were referred to the DDS who has asked the Office of Security to make a survey [ ] to determine circumstances relative to the allegations made in the memorandas.

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My comments to [ ] were to the effect that we carry out whatever special security requests that are necessary from the standpoint of overall security, special restrictions placed on the records by offices who transfer them there and special requirements of the [ ]

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[ ] I pointed out that in every instance the Records Retirement Request has a provision on it for the transferring office to indicate the kinds of restrictions. I also pointed out that with particular respect to the WALNUT project that on 24 March, Mr. [ ]

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[ ] asked me whether the Safes were locked. When I told him that they were not he wanted to know why. I reminded him that about one year ago he and Mr. [ ] of the CI Staff made a tour of the Records Center and at that time the Chief, of the Records Center, [ ] overheard [ ] say he thought the safes should be locked. It was our understanding that if this was necessary we would receive a formal request. Such a request was never received.

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It is particularly significant that DDP does have several safes containing other types of records in the Center and these are locked and DDP retains the combination.

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I advised [ ] that there is considerable history in connection with this particular situation and it is well documented at the Records Center.

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2. Report on the Status of DDI Records Management Program.

[ ] stated this report had been transmitted to the DDI. The covering memorandum, prepared by me, however, was rewritten. He further stated that the body of the report contained factual and typographical errors, but they were not corrected by the Office of DDI. When I challenged this he had no specific instances. On returning to the office we reread the report in detail and could find no factual or typographical errors.

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3. Personnel Actions for [ ]

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[ ] advised that these had been approved as of 27 March. He said that it was the practice of the DDI to present the promotion action to the persons concerned and asked my opinion. I concurred in this idea and suggested that the operating officials in NPIC and OTR should be advised and that appropriate representatives from their offices should be present. In addition, I advised him that NPIC in particular was anxious to make somewhat of a ceremony on this action and I suggested he call [ ]

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Chief, Records Administration Staff, DDS

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